



Highway 53 Corridor Public Open House 2

AmericInn Hotel – International Falls, MN

April 5th, 2018

6:30–8:00 p.m.

Welcome & Project introduction

Facilitators & Advisory Committee

- **Visual Quality Advisory Committee**

Bob Anderson – Mayor

Ken Anderson – City Administrator

Ted Brokaw – Street and Water Commissioner

Gary Skallman – Director of Public Works

Paul Nevanen – Koochiching Econ. Development Authority

Tricia Heibel – International Falls Chamber of Commerce

- **Design/Consultant Team**

MnDOT District 1 Project Manager – Brian Larson

MnDOT Land Management Engineer – John Hinzmann

LHB/Visual Quality Lead – Heidi Bringman, Rachel Johnson

KLJ/Engineering Lead – Travis Wieber, Jake Chapek

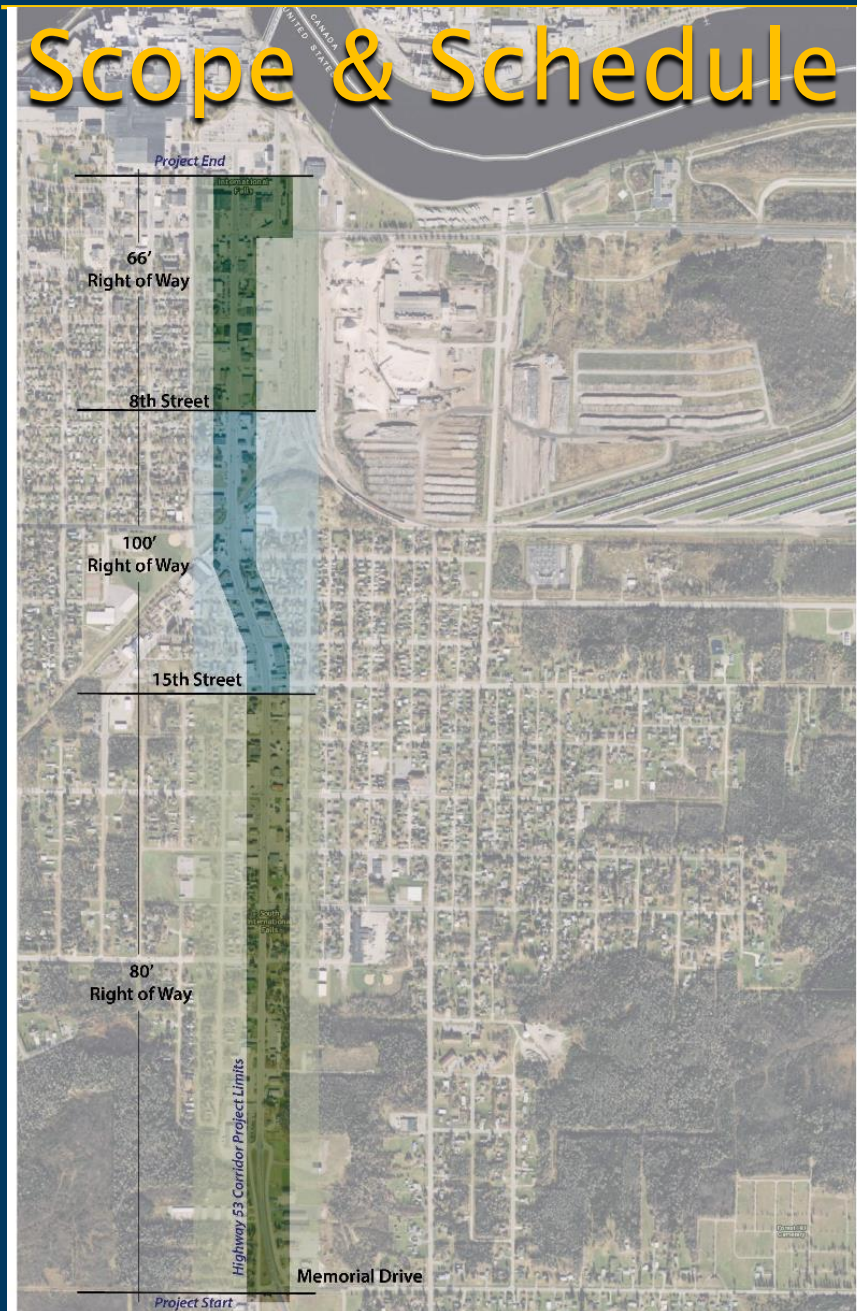
Project introduction

Tonight's meeting purpose

- Refresher on project & background
- Review of visual quality process to date
- Share preferred roadway layout
 - Geometric Plans
 - Landscape Plans
- Re-affirm conceptual vision of corridor with community
- Upcoming opportunities for input & next steps



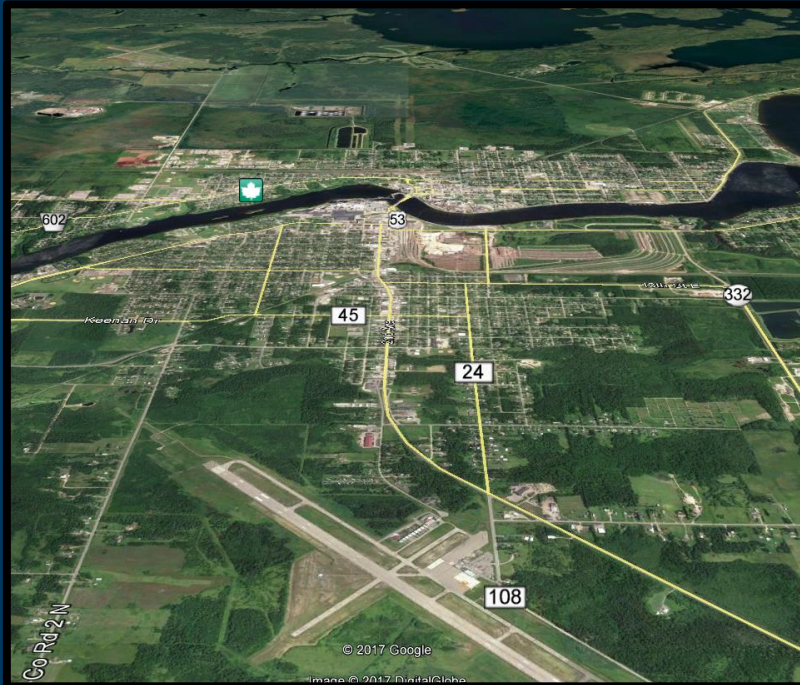
Scope & Schedule



- Project area – 2.1 miles
 - Memorial Drive to 3rd Street
- Project Improvements
 - Pavement resurfacing
 - Lane reconfiguration
 - Storm sewer repair
 - Signal upgrades
 - New ADA compliant walks
 - Streetscape enhancements
- Purpose of Visual Quality
 - Establish visual character or the corridor
 - Define key design elements for future streetscape construction
- Schedule
 - Design: 2018–2019
 - Construction: Summer 2020

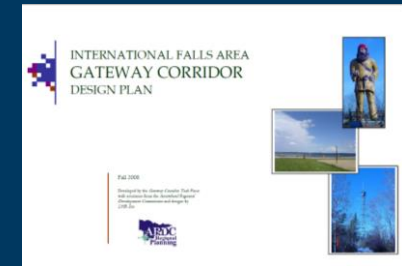
Project background

Corridor influences & previous studies



2007 Gateway Corridor Plan
(identifies vision & priority needs for the community)

2008 Design Plan
(preliminary designs for recommended improvements)




Key Influences:

- Corridor seen as a Gateway
- Area Natural Resources & Local Industries
- Recreation/Tourism
- Historical Significance
- Physical Barriers
- Local requirements and guidance

Design Themes:

- Improve Signage
- Increase green space/pocket parks
- Enhance pedestrian experience (benches, lighting, planters)
- Define & highlight local character

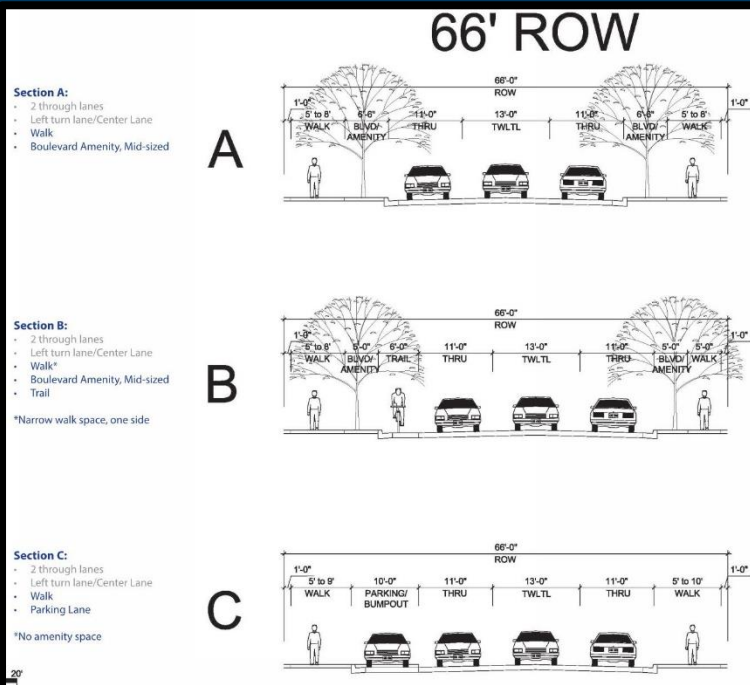
Visual Quality Process



Visual Quality Issues

Identify key visual quality issues for the TH 53 corridor

Traveler Visual Quality Issues	Neighbor Visual Quality Issues
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5



Engagement Meeting Summaries

VQ Meeting 1 (Sept. 6, 2017)

- Established a Conceptual Vision by clarifying the identity, issues and ideas for the corridor

VQ Meeting 2 (Sept. 27, 2017)

- Identified priorities and must haves for corridor, developed 7 roadway options to present at Public Workshop

Visual Quality Process



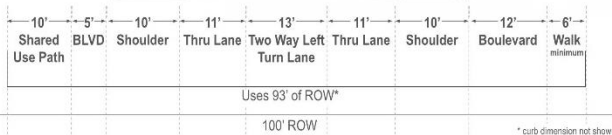
8TH ST - 15TH ST ROADWAY OPTION B

TRAIL

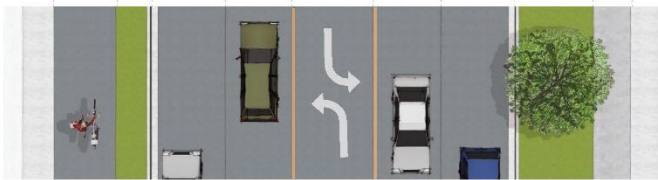
Quick Facts

- 60' Roadway: 2 thru lanes, 1 two way left turn lane, 10' shoulders, curb
- 10' shared use path on Eastern side for bicycling and walking (space available for trail on 15th to 11th Street, 11th - 8th street would have 8' walks)
- 3' Boulevard/ green space on eastern side, opportunities for sod and/or plantings
- 6' minimum walk, Pedestrian Access Route on Western side
- 12' Boulevard/green space on Western side
- Trees planted in the boulevard, narrow species selected to consider branching can accommodate commercial truck traffic

Section view South along Hwy 53



Plan View



Engagement Meeting Summaries

Public Workshop (Oct. 26, 2017)

- Confirmed the conceptual vision of the corridor with the community.
- *We heard:*
 - More greenspace and trees
 - Keep the center turn lane
 - Improve consistency throughout the corridor
 - Keep the curb cuts to businesses
 - Include Northwoods theme
 - Desire for wayside rests and other site amenities
 - Make it bike friendly

Visual Quality Process



Engagement Meeting Summaries

VQ Meeting 3 (Nov. 21, 2017)

- Selected preferred roadway layout prioritizing:
 - Roadway consistency
 - Greenspace
 - Shared use Path
 - The future legacy of International Falls

VQ Meeting 4 (Jan. 25, 2018)

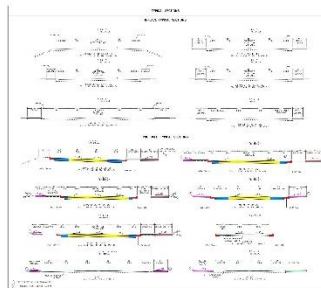
- Review of roadway layout fit & introduction of streetscape elements.



Highway 53 Corridor

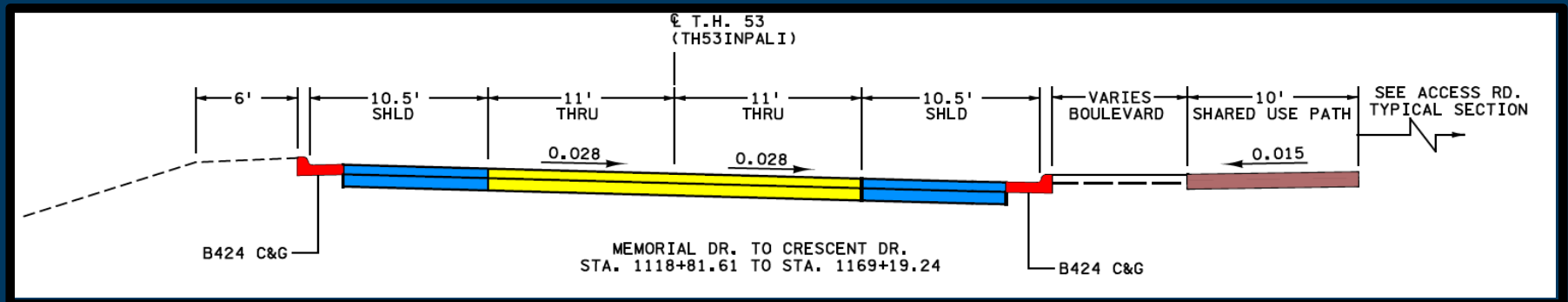
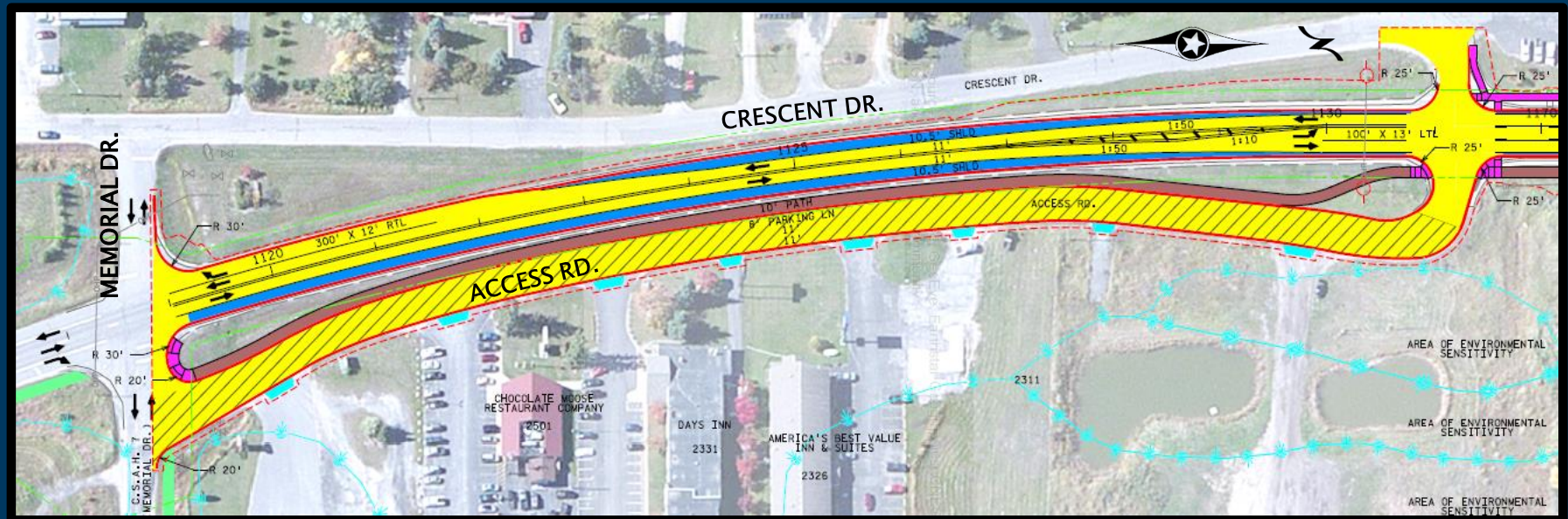


Proposed Geometric Overview

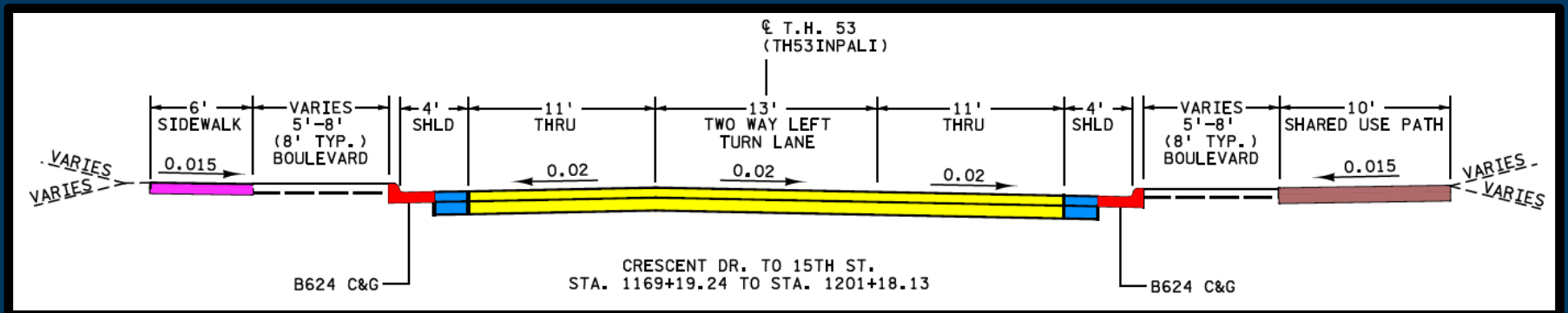
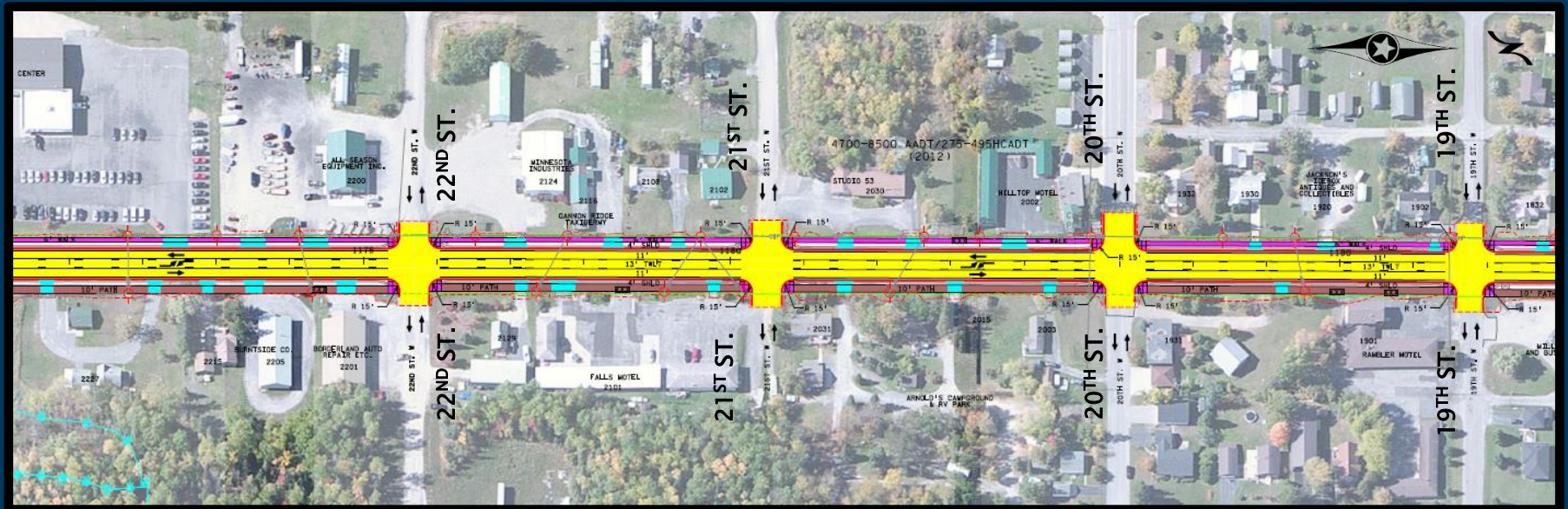


KLJ
KLEIN LUTHER JENSEN
ENGINEERS

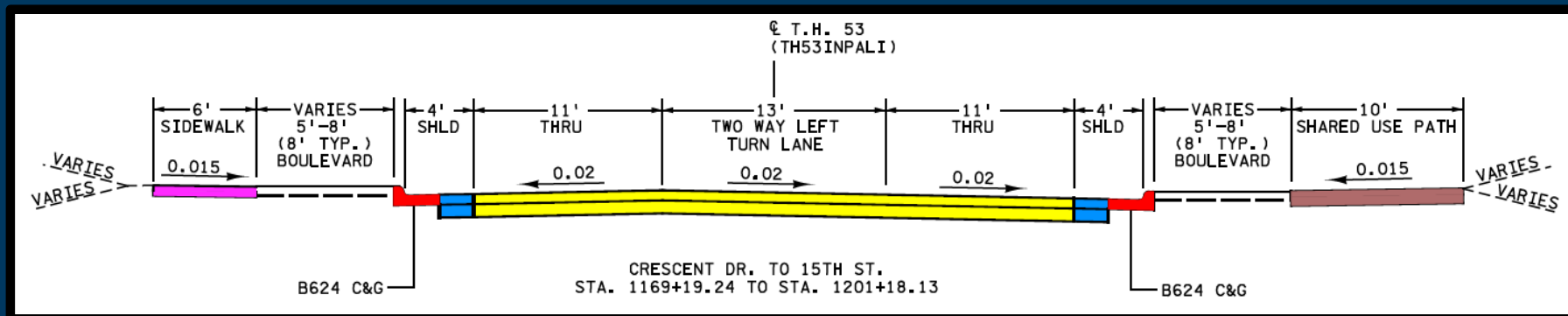
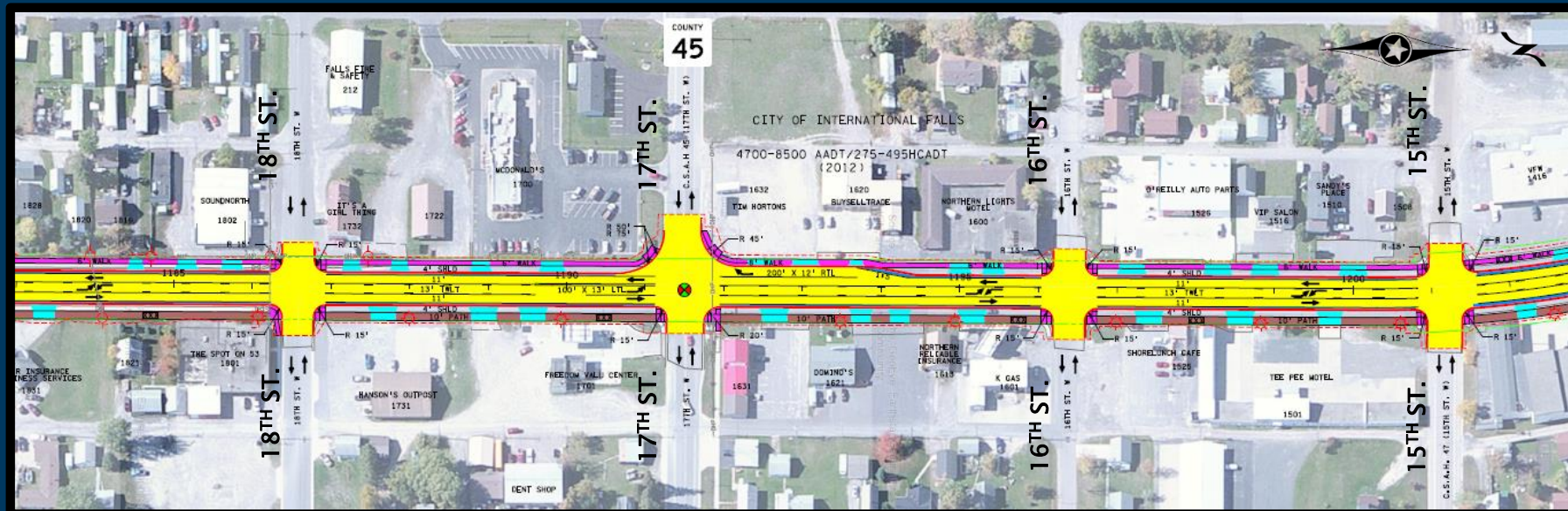
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – Memorial to Crescent



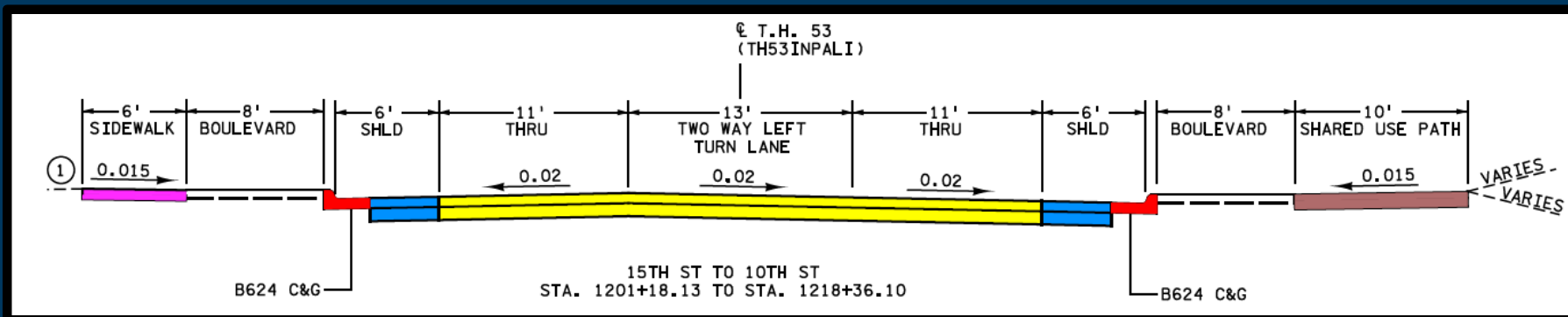
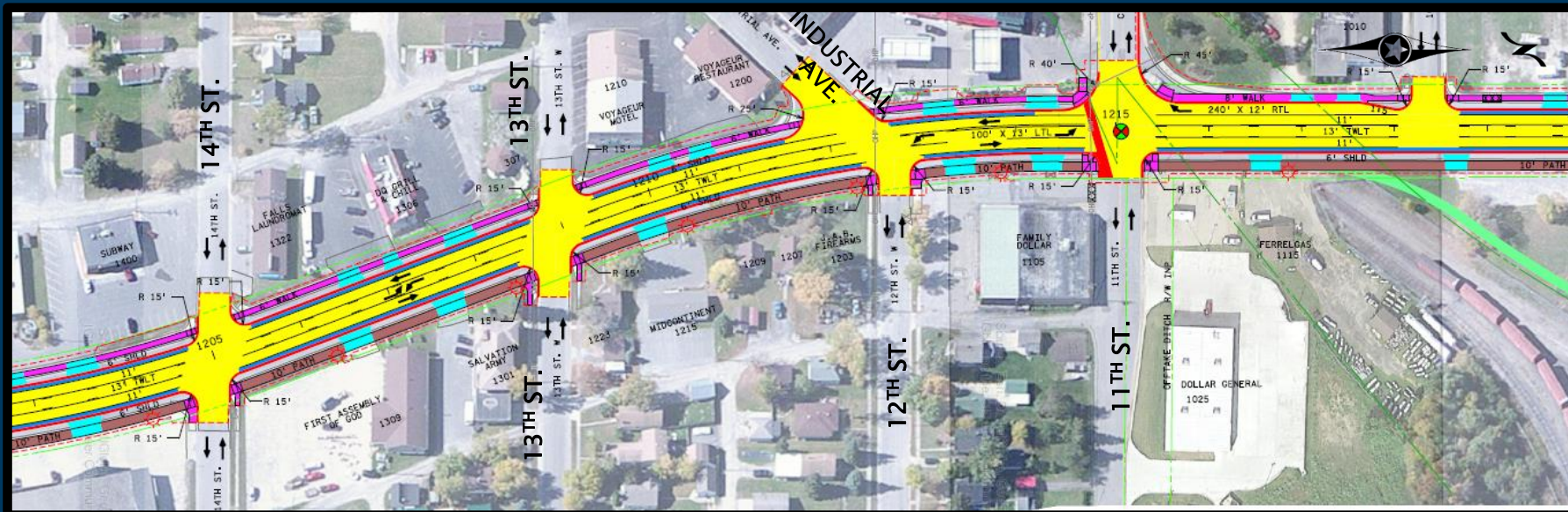
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – Crescent to 19th St.



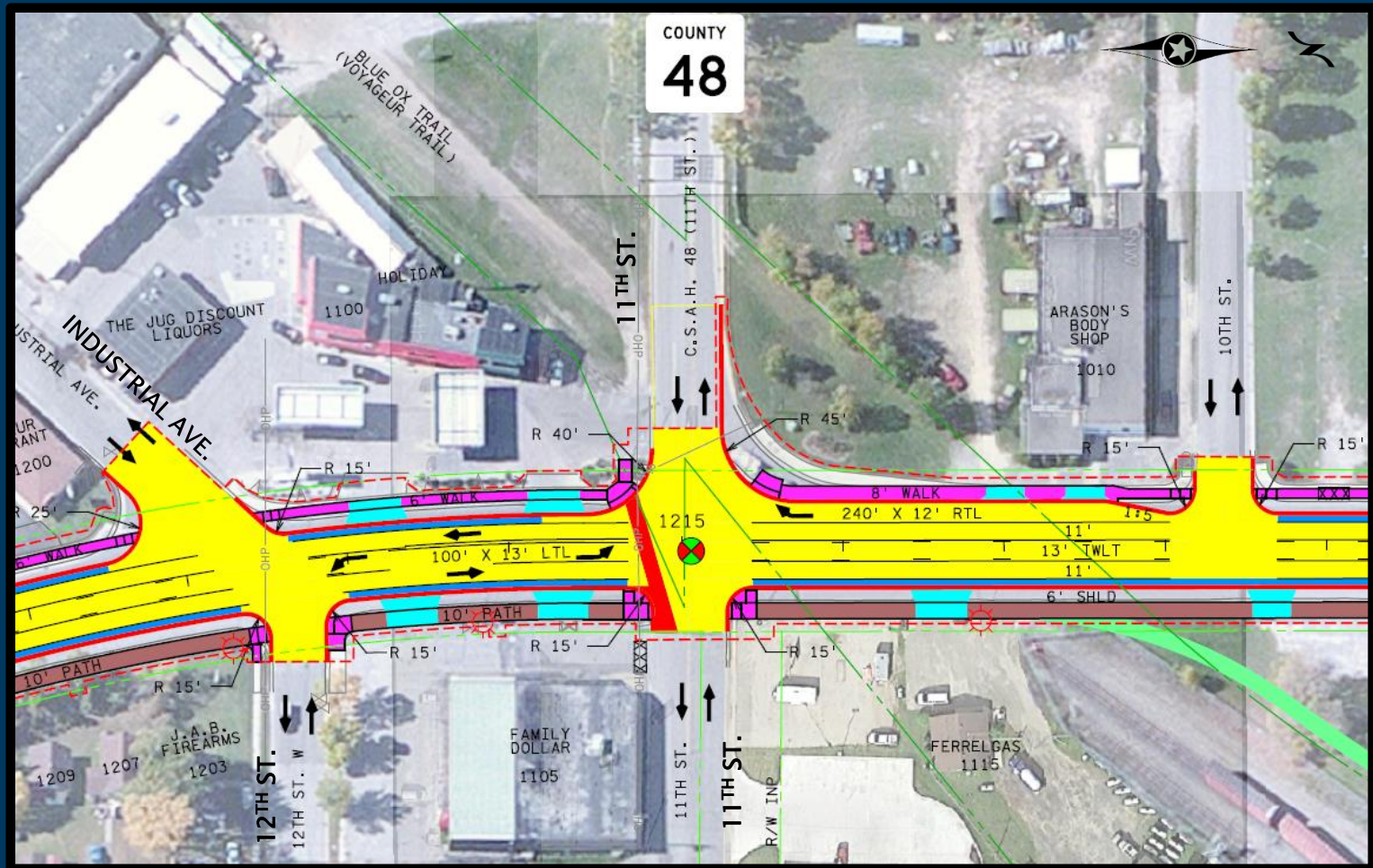
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 19th St. to 15th St.



Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 15th St. to 10th St.



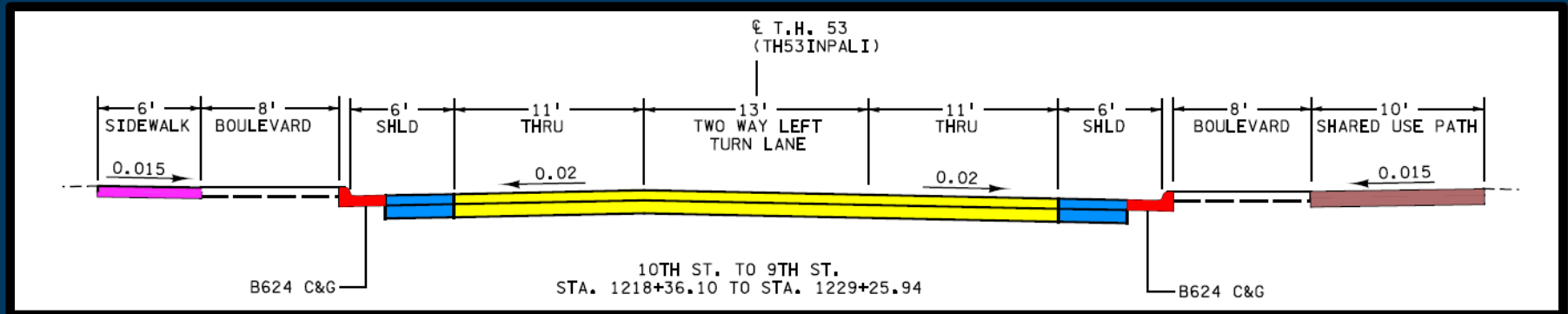
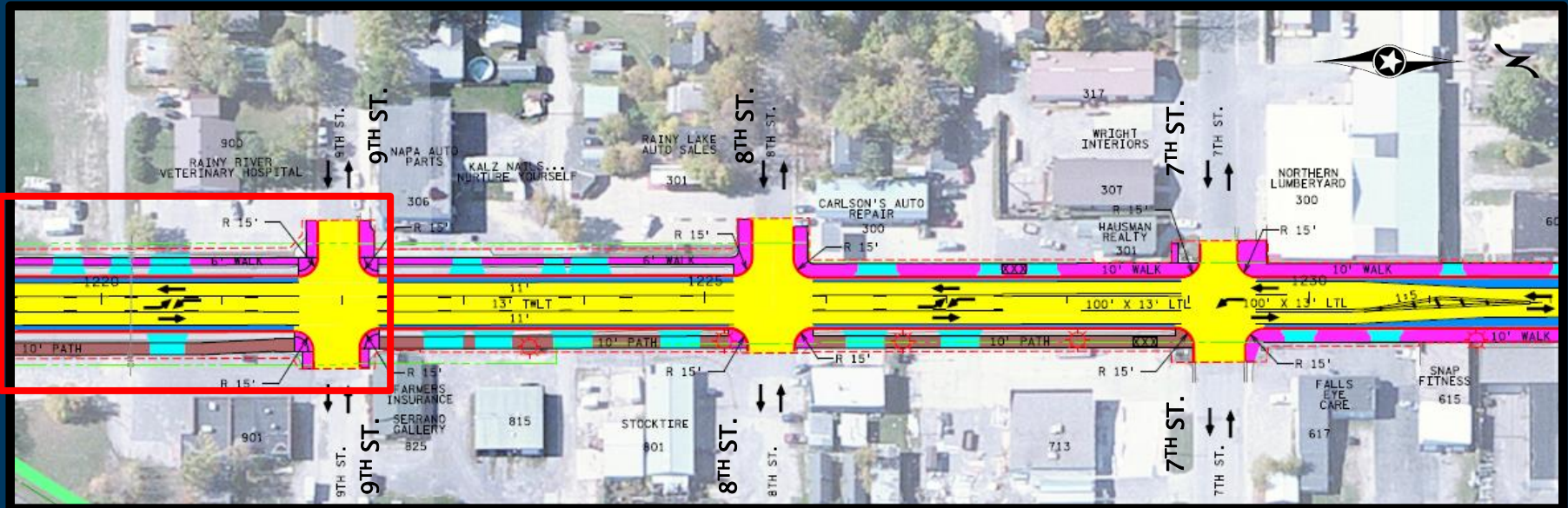
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 11th St. Intersection



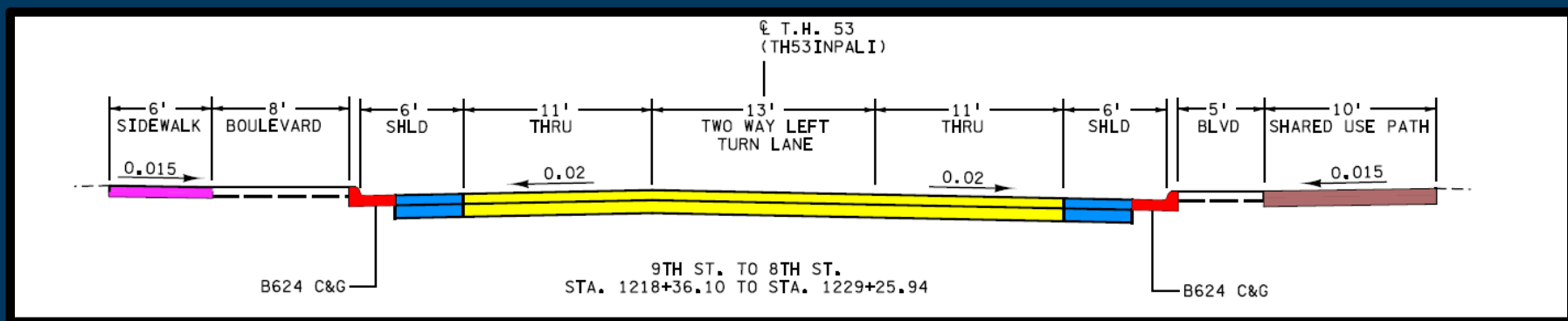
Preferred Roadway Layout



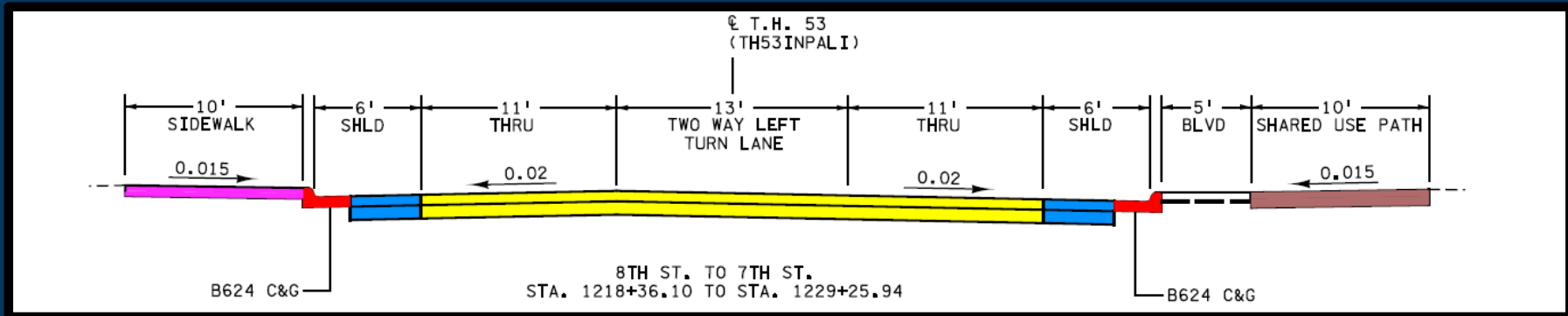
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 10th St. to 7th St.



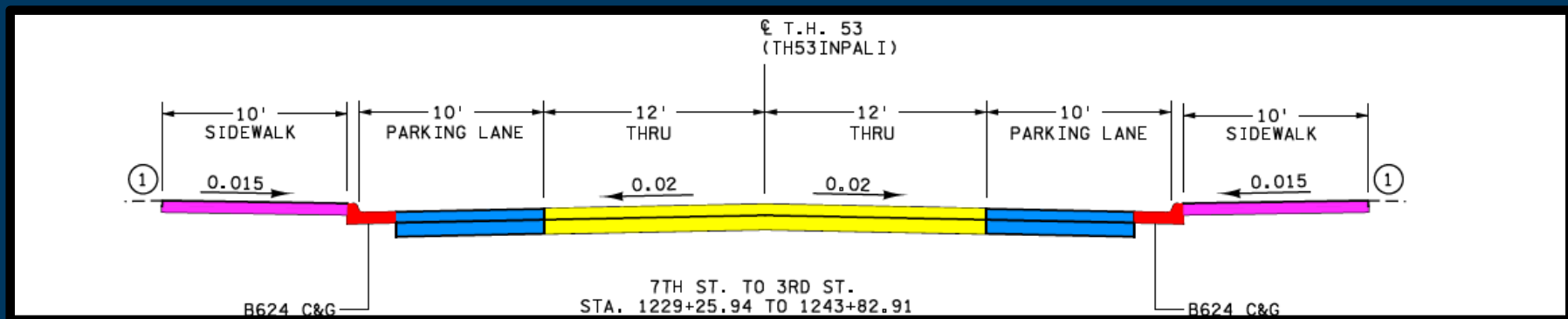
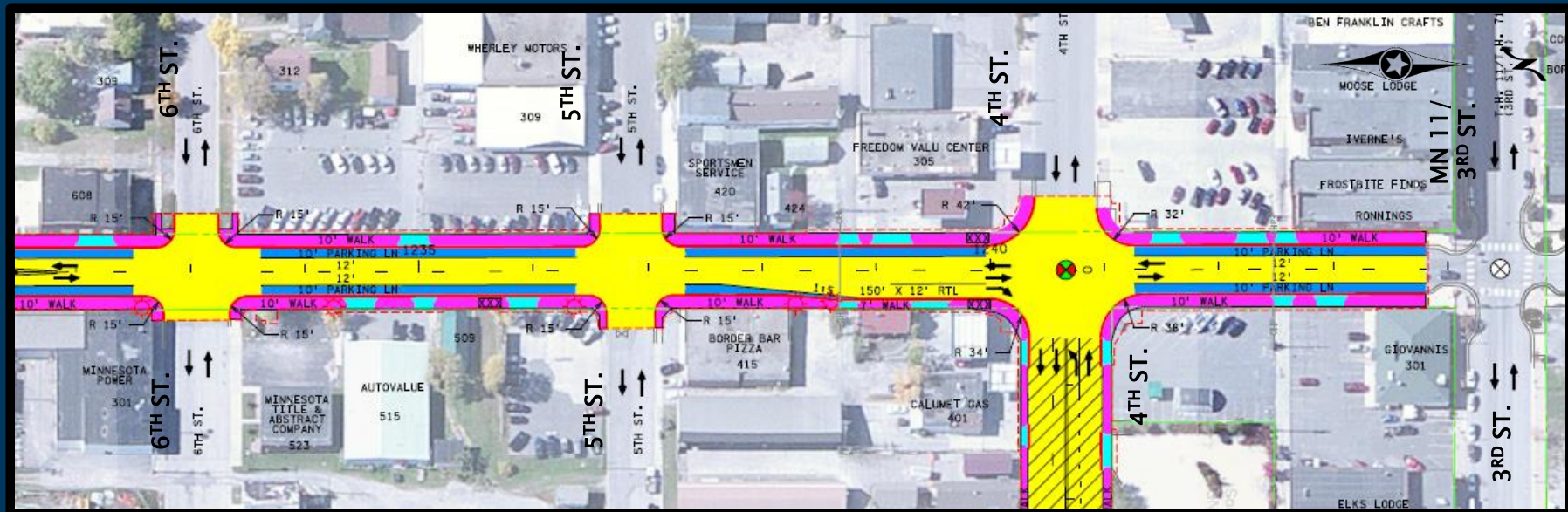
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 10th St. to 7th St.



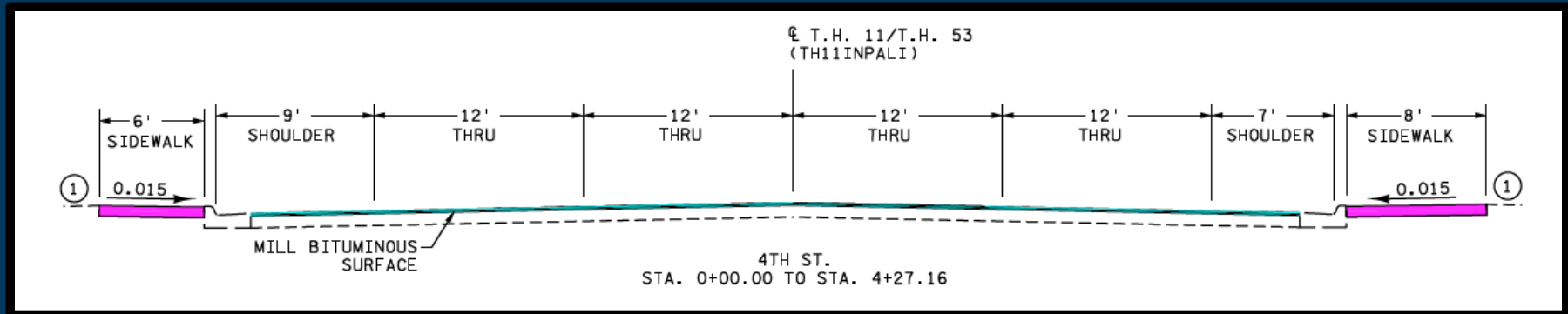
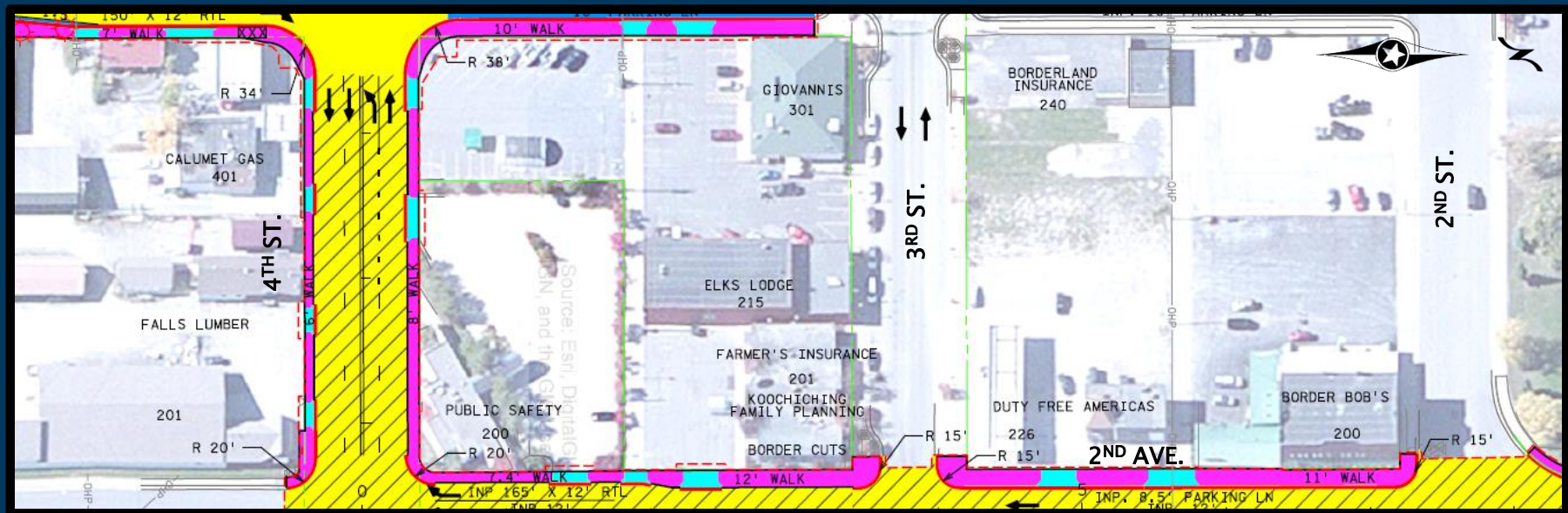
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 10th St. to 7th St.



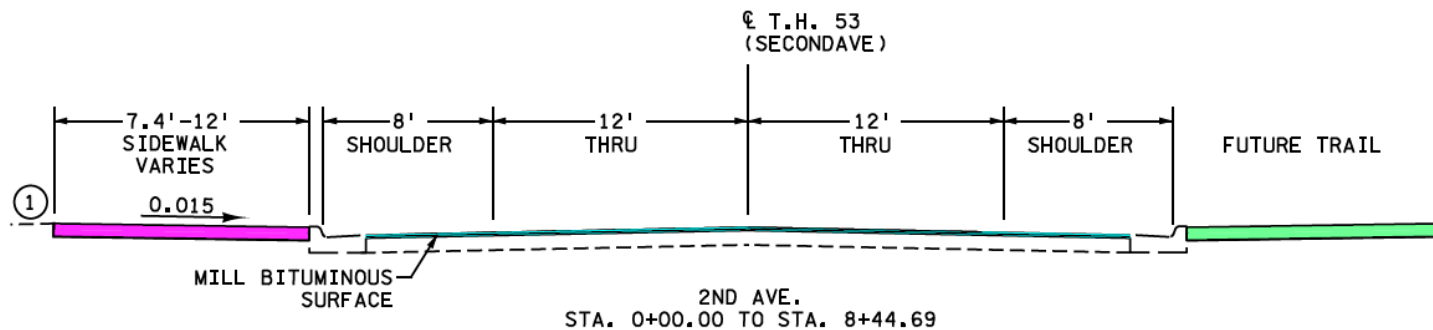
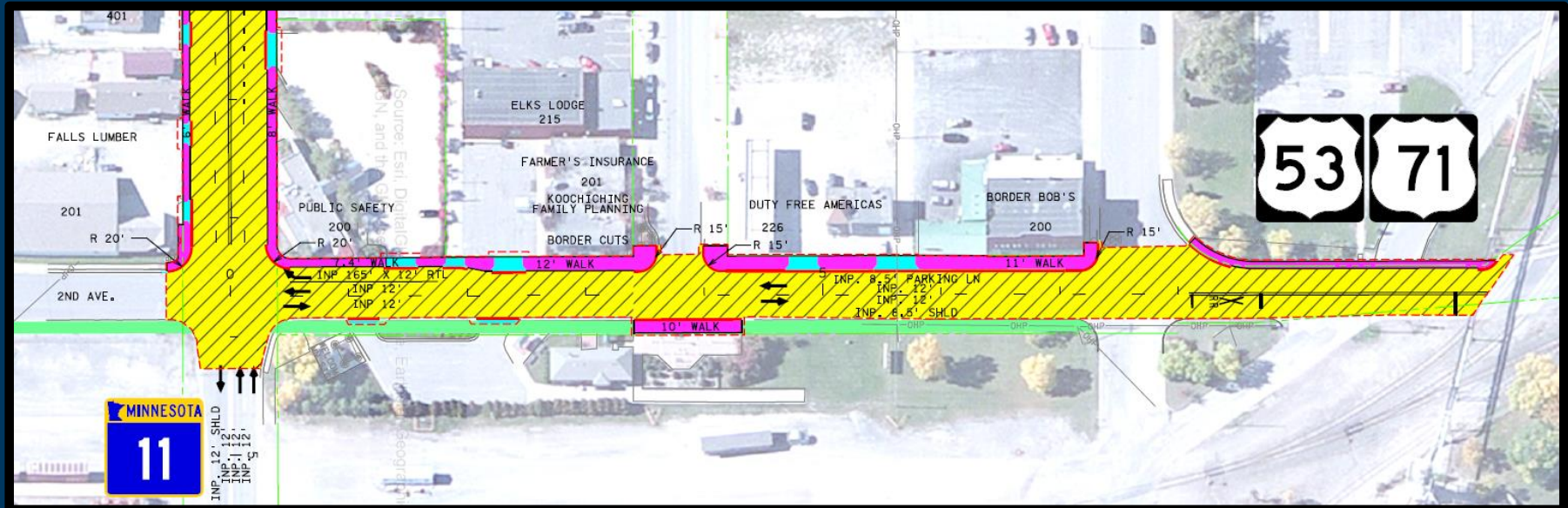
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 7th St. to 3rd St.



Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 4th St. (MN 11)



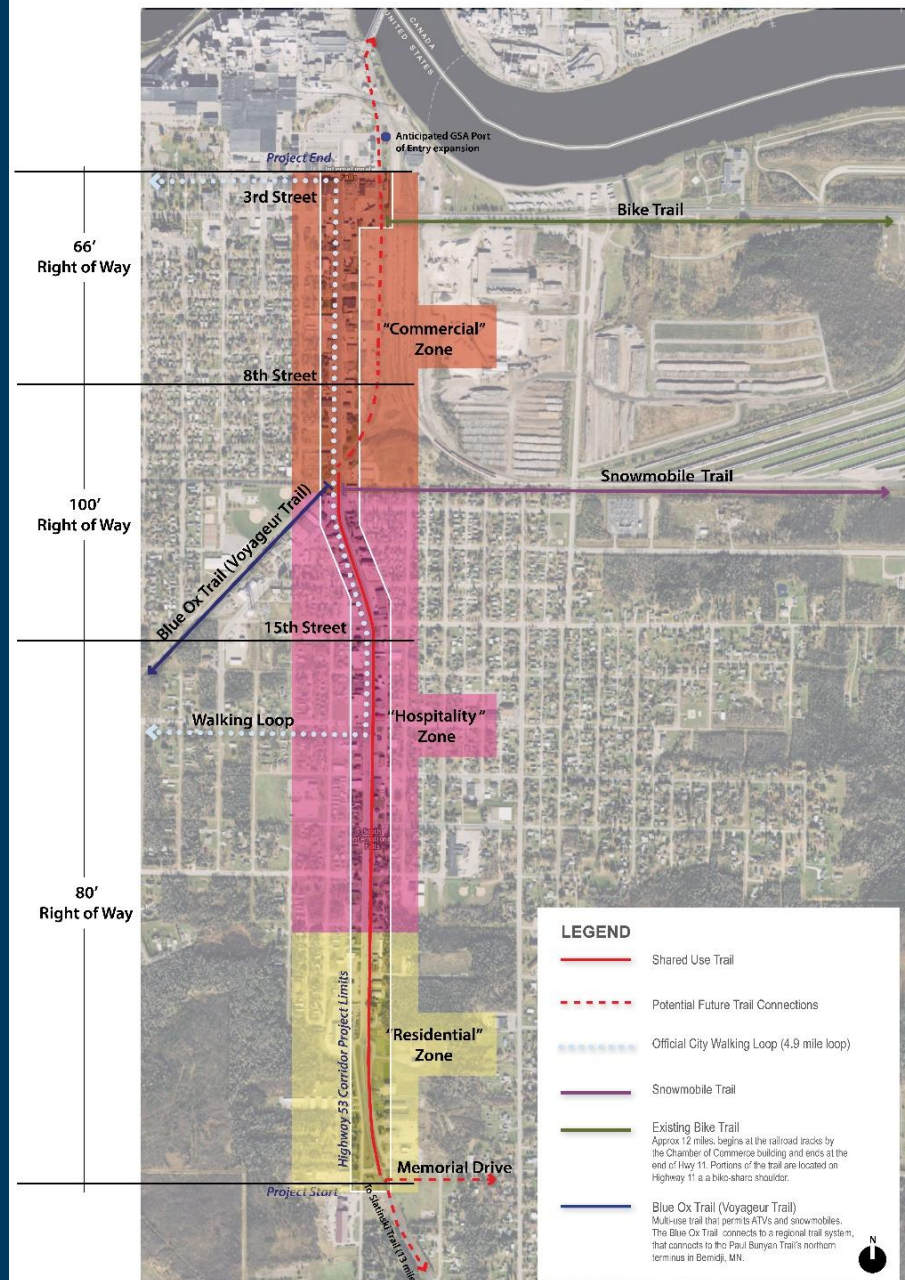
Preferred Roadway Layout Geometric Plan – 2nd Ave.



Preferred Roadway Layout

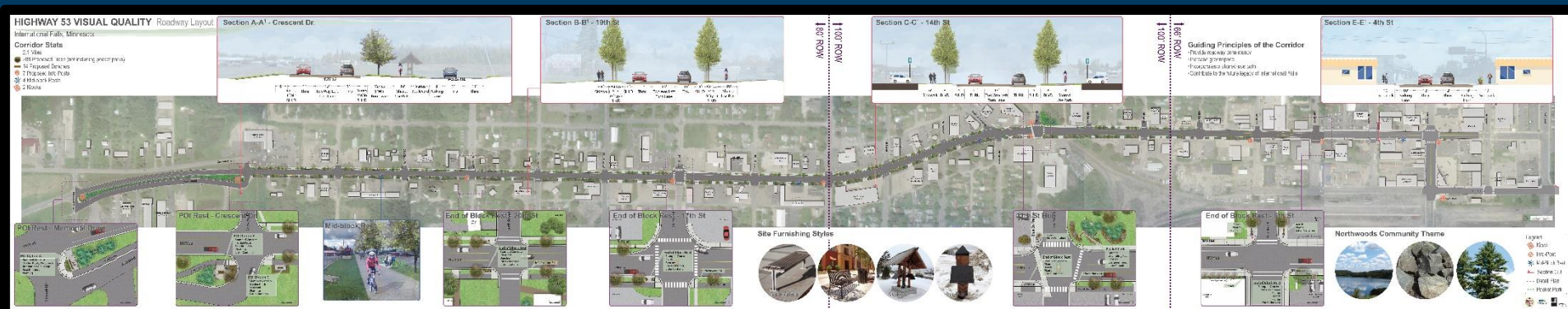
Surrounding Context, & Trail Connections

PROJECT LIMITS, SURROUNDING CONTEXT, & TRAIL CONNECTIONS



Preferred Roadway Layout

Proposed Landscape Overview



Detail Plan–Memorial Drive

HWY 53

POI Option A

Stamped Concrete
2-sided Kiosk/Welcome to
International Falls Sign
Seat Boulders
Plantings

Evergreen Backdrop
at Gateway

Shared Use Path

Access Rd

Memorial Dr

Detail Plan- Crescent Drive

Crescent Dr

HWY 53

Shared Use Path

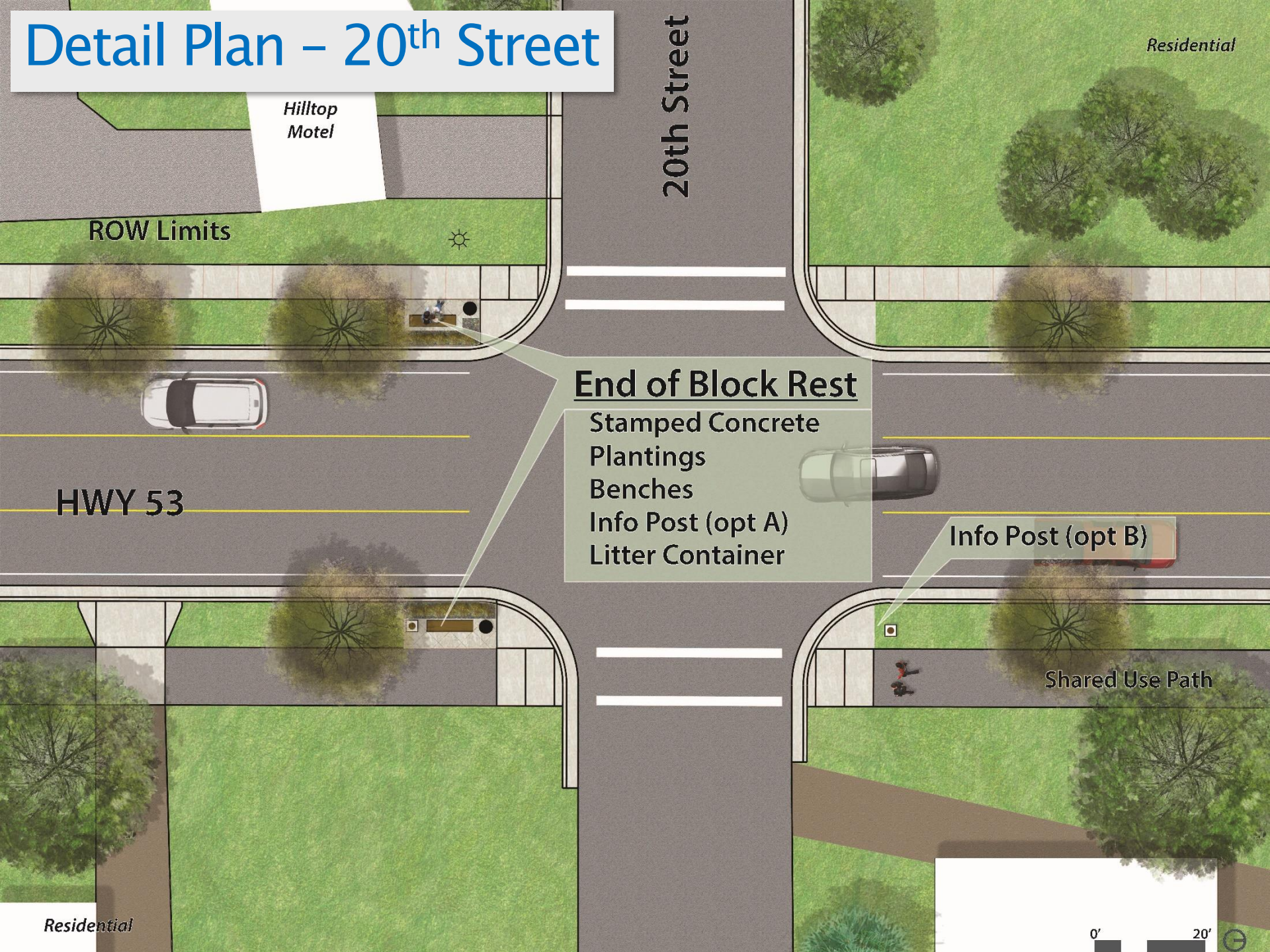
POI Option B

Stamped Concrete
4-sided Kiosk
Seat Boulders
Plantings
Litter Container

POI Option C

Stamped Concrete
2-sided Kiosk
Seat Wall
Plantings
Litter Container

Detail Plan – 20th Street



Hilltop
Motel

ROW Limits

20th Street

Residential

HWY 53

End of Block Rest

Stamped Concrete
Plantings
Benches
Info Post (opt A)
Litter Container

Info Post (opt B)

Shared Use Path

Residential



Detail Plan – 17th Street

McDonald's

Tim Horton's

17th St

ROW Limits

HWY 53

End of Block Rest

- Stamped Concrete
- Plantings
- Benches
- Info Post (opt A)
- Litter Container

Info Post (opt B)

Shared Use Path

Freedom

Detail Plan – 11th Street

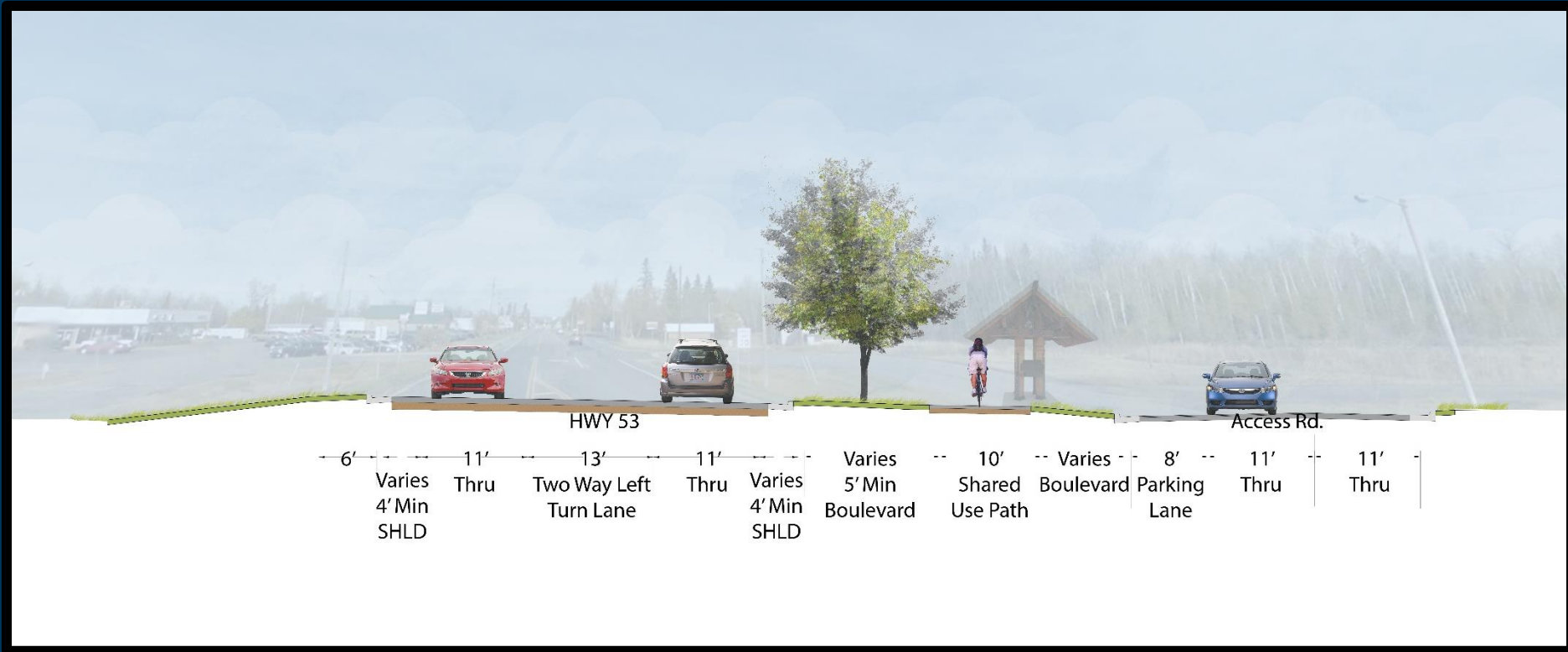


Detail Plan – 6th Street



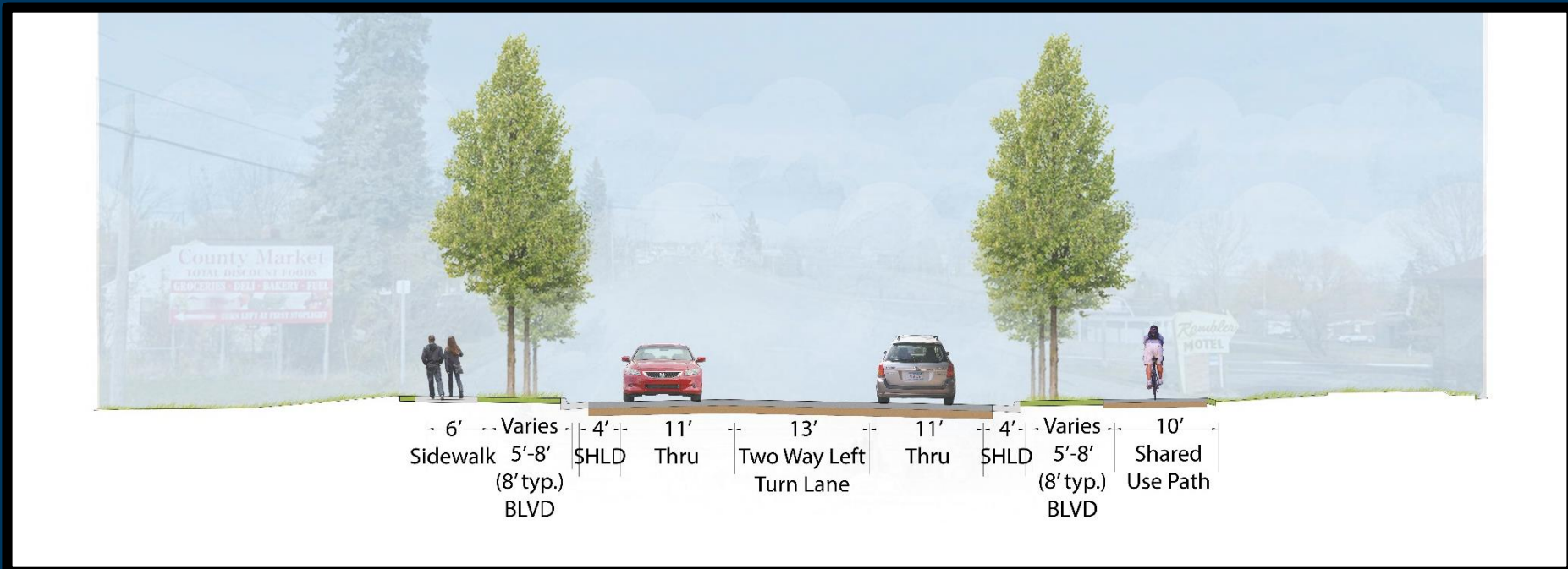
Preferred Roadway Layout

Landscape Section A – A': 80' ROW at Crescent Drive



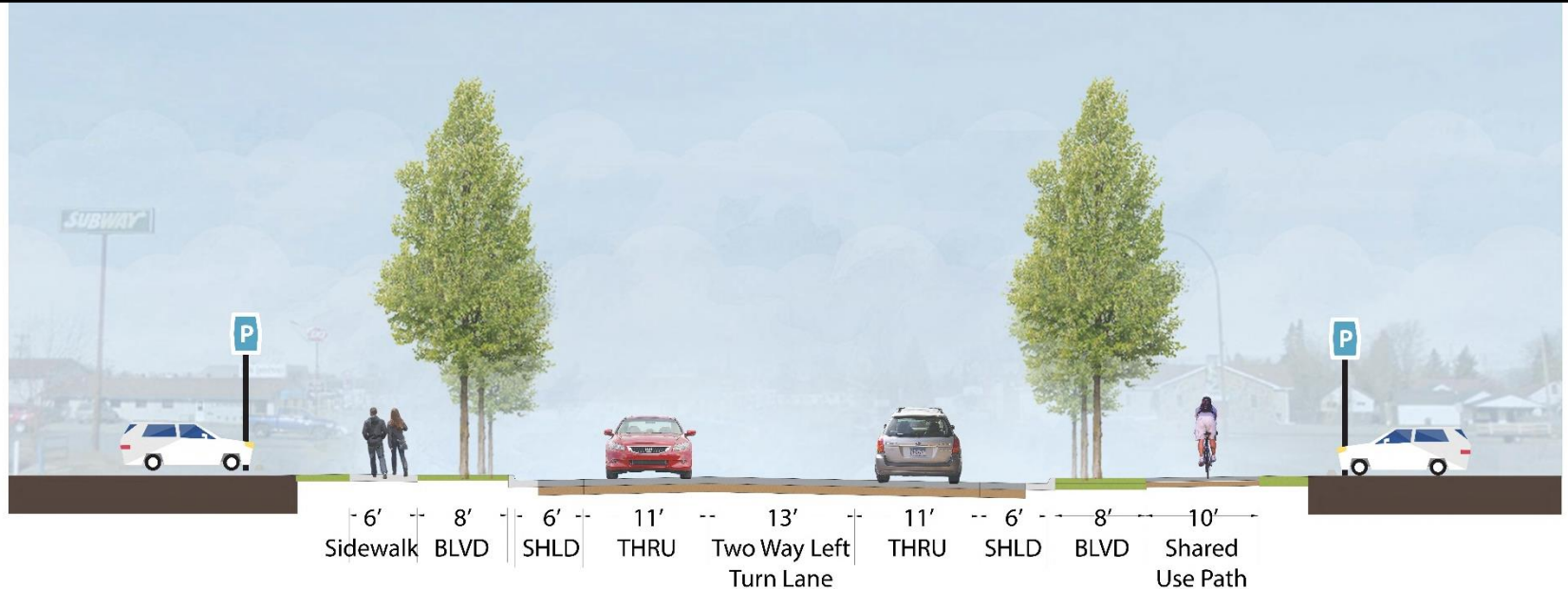
Preferred Roadway Layout

Landscape Section B-B': 80' ROW at 19th Street



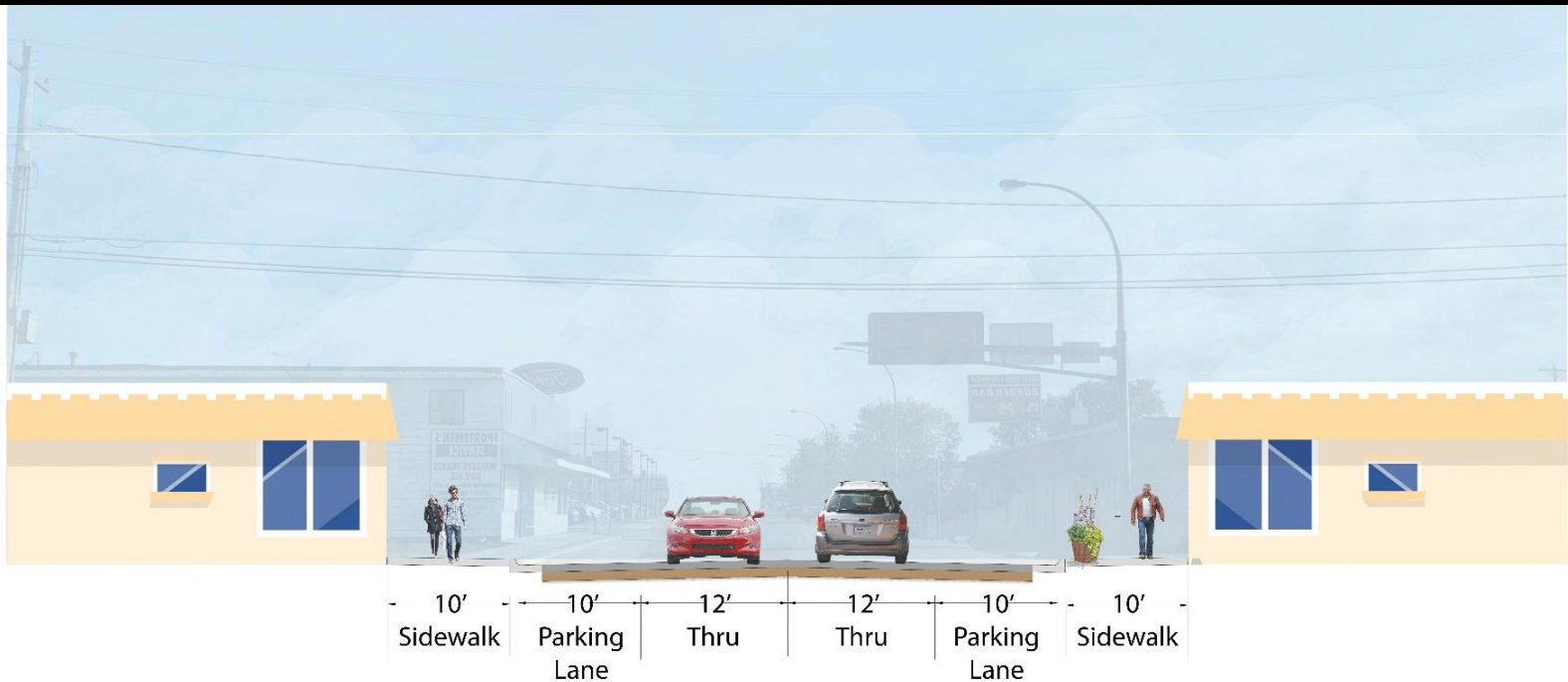
Preferred Roadway Layout

Landscape Section C-C': 100' ROW at 14th Street



Preferred Roadway Layout

Landscape Section D-D': 60' ROW at 14th Street

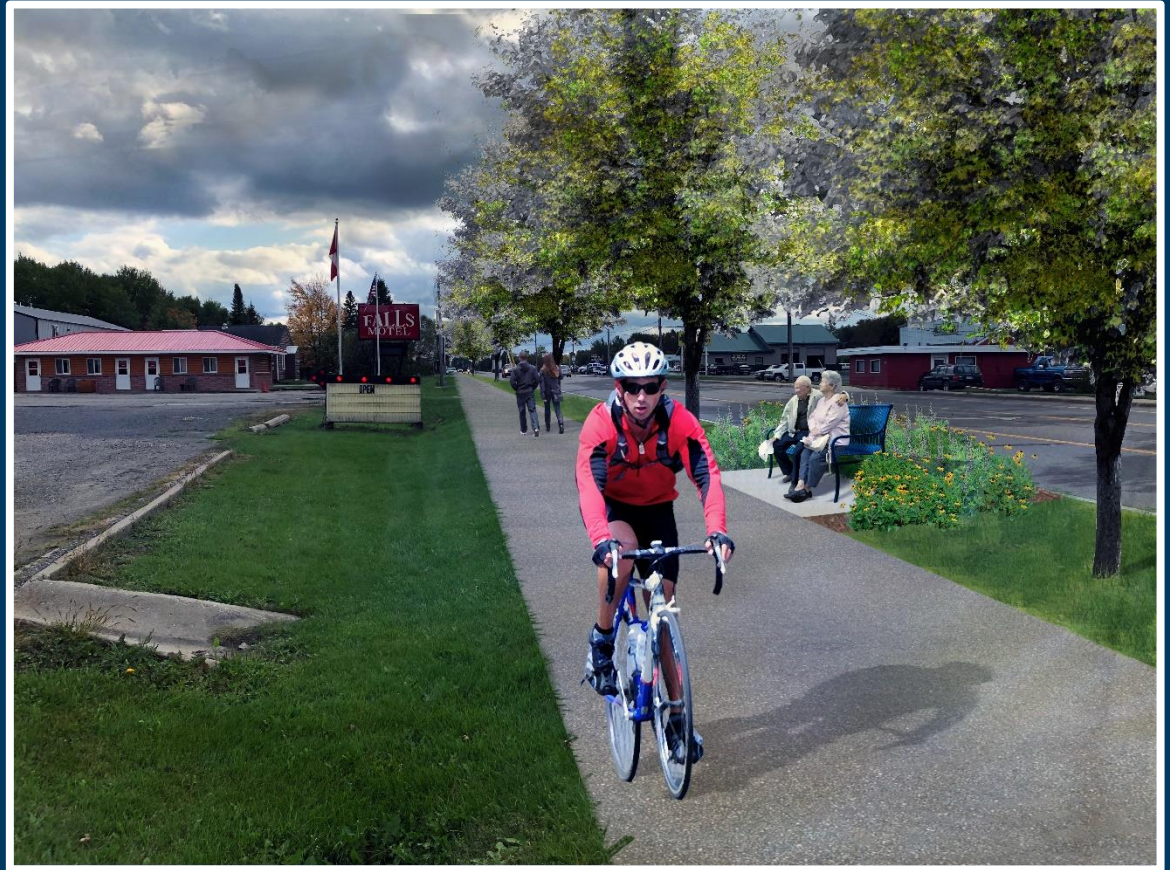


Meeting summary

Next Steps

MnDOT prepares for construction:

- Early Notification Letters
- Easements
- Encroachments
- Driveways
- Environmental Drilling



Please provide feedback on questionnaires

HIGHWAY 53 Roadway layout, amenities, and landscaping survey
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

1 Do you agree that the geometric layout & streetscape design prioritizes the overall guiding principles of:

Yes No

- ☐ ☐ - Provides roadway consistency?
- ☐ ☐ - Increases greenspace?
- ☐ ☐ - Incorporates a shared-use path?
- ☐ ☐ - Is considering the future legacy of International Falls?

2 What still needs to change?

3 Do you like the preliminary site amenities and landscape placement?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Why or why not?

Would you change?

HIGHWAY 53 Roadway layout, amenities, and landscaping survey

4 Are any locations missing?
Comment here or mark on the map.

[illegible]

Meeting Summary

Upcoming Opportunities for Input

- Check out the website at:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d1/projects/hwy-53-international-falls/ada.html>

- Contact a Visual Quality Advisory Committee Member

Brian Larson
D1 Project Manager
brian.larson@state.mn.us

Additional information

Planning references

- International Falls Gateway Corridor Task Force & ARDC Planning Documents
 - *2007 International Falls Area Gateway Corridor Plan*
 - *2008 International Falls Gateway Corridor Design Plan*



Thank you!

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d1/projects/hwy-53-international-falls/ada.html>

